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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/687,187	10/16/2003	Steven S. Homer	200309431-1	7568
22879	7590	01/31/2006	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			DATSKOVSKIY, MICHAEL V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/687,187

Applicant(s)

HOMER ET AL.

Examiner

Michael V. Datskovskiy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 16-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 16-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14, 16-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 21 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reames et al (US Patent 6,174,482).

Reames et al teach a personal computer (col. 6, lines 38-54), comprising: a housing having a perimeter edge; a controller inherently located within the housing; and a display (Figs. 13-16) having a top surface extending to the perimeter edge, wherein the top surface of a glass panel 112 and the perimeter edge 127 form an uninterrupted and smooth transition.

3. Claims 1, 3-4, 9, 16, 18-20, 21-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohgami et al (Previously cited US Patent 5,574,625).

Ohgami et al teach a tablet personal computer, Figs. 1-8, comprising: a housing 12 having a rectangle perimeter edge 11; a controller (microprocessor) inherently located within the housing; and a touch-screen display having a top surface 18 extending to the perimeter edge 11, wherein the top surface and the perimeter edge form an uninterrupted and smooth transition, and wherein the housing comprises a base wall 14b disposed generally parallel to the display surface 18. Ohgami et al teach

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furthermore said tablet computer further comprises: a graphical user interface 64 located beneath the display panel 18; a pointer/stylus 26 adapted to actuate the graphical user interface; a pad 62 disposed between the display panel 18 and the housing 12. Regarding to the claims 16, 18-20 and 24-25: The method steps are inherently necessitated by the device structure as Yang et al disclosed it.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 9, 16, 18-22 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yang et al (Previously cited US Patent 6,781,819).

Yang et al teach a rectangular tablet personal computer, Figs. 2-13, comprising: a housing 100 having a rectangle perimeter edge; a controller (microprocessor) inherently located within the housing; a graphical user interface inherently located beneath a display panel; and a touch-screen digitized display (Fig. 9A) having a top surface extending to the perimeter edge of the housing 100, wherein the top surface and the perimeter edge form an uninterrupted and smooth transition, and wherein the housing comprises a base wall 14 disposed generally parallel to the display surface. Yang et al teach furthermore said tablet computer further comprising a keyboard 300 removably attached to the housing 100 at the perimeter edge. Regarding to the claims 16, 18-20 and 24-25: The method steps are inherently necessitated by the device structure as Ohgami et al disclosed it.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 5-6, 8, 10-14, 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohgami et al in view of Hashimoto (US Patent 5,442,470).

Ohgami et al teach all the limitations of the claims except said top protective panel 18 is made of glass (by Ohgami et al it is made of a transparent acrylic plate). Hoshimoto teaches a notebook computer, Fig.9, comprising a protective top panel 15 made of glass (col. 9, line 59 through col. 10, line 3). It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time invention was made to make a top protective panel in the device by Ohgami et al from glass as it is disclosed by Hoshimoto in order to improve protection of the LCD display.

7. Claims 2, 5-6 and 17 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang et al.

Yang et al teach all the limitations of the claims except a top display panel is made of glass. Hoshimoto teaches a notebook computer, Fig.9, comprising a protective top panel 15 made of glass (col. 9, line 59 through col. 10, line 3). It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time invention was made to make a top display panel in the device by Yang et al from glass as it is disclosed by Hoshimoto in order to improve protection of the LCD display.

***Conclusion***

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Examiner points out that due to the extremely broad character of the most of the claims, numerous prior art references, including for example, previously cited Shioya et al, Ohgami et al, Uchida, Yang et al, Tanaka et al and Matsumoto; and newly cited references by: Reavey et al (US Patent 5,847,698); Haneda et al (US Patent 5,900,848) Kuno et al (US Patent 5,467,102) and Mueller (DE 20113314 U1) all are applicable for the rejection of the at least claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 16, 18-22 and 25-26 of the instant application. These references could be used because all of them show a personal computer, wherein a housing perimeter edge and a top surface of a display forming an uninterrupted and smooth transition; all of them inherently comprise a controller

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(microprocessor) and all are tablet type of computers, inherently having digitized touch screens and pen/stylus touch screen pointing actuators.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael V. Datskovskiy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2040. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael V Datskovskiy  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2835

01/27/2006